

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

January 25, 2005 LB 80

Legislature. LB 80 is a bill that provides uniformity of speeds on school buses. Currently, the state restricts school buses to 55 miles per hour on state highways and so on, and there's a differential speed limit set up on school buses for other roads, clear down to 40 miles an hour on gravel roads, so on. What this bill does, it provides uniformity so that the school bus can travel the posted speed limit on the highway or, in some cases, county roads where they are traveling. It came about because of a near accident we had in southwest Nebraska with a school bus being approached from the rear at night going 55 miles an hour on a...what we call a super two-lane highway. And it's, to me, it's a safety matter that we get these school buses up to speed with the flow of the traffic and, thereby, alleviate any future problems like we had out there before with the bus. I would be glad to answer any questions. It's for uniformity of speed for school buses. Doesn't give them any special privileges or anything. They simply can travel the same speed as the traffic around them on whatever particular road they're on. Of course, there's different speed limits. They simply have to adhere to the speed limit on the road which they're traveling. Be glad to answer any questions. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. You've heard the opening on advancement of LB 80. Open for discussion on that motion. Senator Hudkins, followed by Senator Smith. Senator Hudkins.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I would like to ask Senator Baker a question, if I may.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Baker, would you yield to a question from Senator Hudkins?

SENATOR BAKER: Yes. Yes, I would.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Senator Baker, you know I'm on the committee and that I did support this to be advanced to the floor. You addressed, rather well I thought, the reason why school bus speed limits are being changed. Would you also go back and give the rationale for the changes for the motorcycles?